Applicant(s): G. Windel
Application No.: 10/088,717
Examiner: M. Spisich

Amendments to the Claims

1 to 16 (cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A washing device for a car wash unit, the washing device mounted on a shaft and comprising:

a plurality of bristle element areas and a plurality of strip wash element areas independently positioned ~~on a periphery~~ along the shaft of the washing device, each of the bristle element areas and the strip wash element areas being transversely spaced apart and arranged in an alternating manner such that at least one of the bristle element areas is positioned adjacent to at least one of the strip wash element areas,

wherein each of the plurality of bristle element areas includes a plurality of bristle elements and each of the plurality of strip wash element areas includes a strip wash element; ~~and~~

wherein the bristle elements have a greater length than the strip wash elements and the bristle elements are coarser than the strip wash elements; and

wherein at least two of the plurality of strip washer elements are located in a cross-section of the washer device perpendicular to the axis of the shaft.

18. (Previously presented) The washing device of claim 17 wherein the strip wash elements are made of a plastic foam.

19. (Previously presented) The washing device of claim 18 wherein the plastic foam is a closed-pore polyethylene foam.

20. (Previously presented) The washing device of claim 17 wherein the strip wash elements are made of a fiber material.

21. (Previously presented) The washing device of claim 20 wherein the fiber material is cloth or felt.

22. (Previously presented) The washing device of claim 17 wherein the strip wash elements comprise individual thin strips or cloths with slits.

23. (Previously presented) The washing device of claim 17 wherein the bristle and strip wash element areas are arranged in an alternating manner in a circumferential direction.

24. (Previously presented) The washing device of claim 17 wherein the bristle and strip wash element areas are arranged in an alternating manner in an axial direction.

25. (Previously presented) The washing device of claim 17 further comprising groove rings and wherein the bristle and strip wash elements are secured to the groove rings and wherein the bristle wash elements are configured as bristle tufts.

26. (Previously presented) The washing device of claim 25 wherein the bristle wash elements are made of polyethylene, polyamide, or polypropylene.

27. (Currently amended) ~~The washing device of claim 17~~ A washing device for a car wash unit, the washing device mounted on a shaft and comprising:

a plurality of bristle element areas and a plurality of strip wash element areas independently positioned on a periphery of the washing device, each of the bristle element areas and the strip wash element areas being transversely spaced apart and arranged in an alternating manner such that at least one of the bristle element areas is positioned adjacent to at least one of the strip wash element areas,

wherein each of the plurality of bristle element areas includes a plurality of bristle elements and each of the plurality of strip wash element areas includes a strip wash element;

wherein the bristle elements have a greater length than the strip wash elements and the bristle elements are coarser than the strip wash elements; and

wherein the washing device is a scrub brush and the bristle and strip wash elements are arranged in a lower region of the scrub brush rotating about a substantially vertical axis.

28. (Currently amended) ~~The washing device of claim 17~~ A washing device for a car wash unit, the washing device mounted on a shaft and comprising:

a plurality of bristle element areas and a plurality of strip wash element areas independently positioned on a periphery of the washing device, each of the bristle element areas and the strip wash element areas being transversely spaced apart and arranged in an alternating manner such that at least one of the bristle element areas is positioned adjacent to at least one of the strip wash element areas,

wherein each of the plurality of bristle element areas includes a plurality of bristle elements and each of the plurality of strip wash element areas includes a strip wash element;

wherein the bristle elements have a greater length than the strip wash elements and the bristle elements are coarser than the strip wash elements; and

wherein the washing device is a scrub brush and the bristle and strip wash elements are arranged on two end regions of the scrub brush rotating about a substantially horizontal axis.

29. (Previously presented) The washing device of claim 17 further comprising groove rings arranged in twist-lock manner on the shaft and wherein the bristle and strip wash elements are secured to the groove rings.

30. (Previously presented) The washing device of claim 17 wherein the washing device has upper and lower regions and the plurality of alternating bristle and strip wash element areas are located in the lower region.

31. (Previously presented) The washing device of claim 17 further comprising groove rings arranged on the shaft and wherein at least one of the groove rings includes twelve rows of bristle wash elements and twelve rows of strip wash elements arranged in uniform alternation and

distributed about the groove ring circumference.

32. (Previously presented) The washing device of claim 17 wherein the bristle wash elements in a fully extended condition are around 5 cm longer than the strip wash elements.

33. (Previously presented) The washing device of claim 17 wherein the bristle wash elements are fastened in radial openings on the washing device and arranged between axial grooves that accommodate the strip wash elements.

34. (Previously presented) The washing device of claim 33 wherein the radial openings are on the shaft.

35. (Currently amended) ~~The washing device of claim 17~~ A washing device for a car wash unit, the washing device mounted on a shaft and comprising:

a plurality of bristle element areas and a plurality of strip wash element areas independently positioned on a periphery of the washing device, each of the bristle element areas and the strip wash element areas being transversely spaced apart and arranged in an alternating manner such that at least one of the bristle element areas is positioned adjacent to at least one of the strip wash element areas.

wherein each of the plurality of bristle element areas includes a plurality of bristle elements and each of the plurality of strip wash element areas includes a strip wash element;

wherein the bristle elements have a greater length than the strip wash elements and the bristle elements are coarser than the strip wash elements; and

wherein the bristle wash elements and the strip wash elements are each arranged in bundles and are uniformly distributed peripherally and axially, and the bundles are secured in radial openings on the washing device.

36. (Previously presented) The washing device of claim 35 wherein at least some of the radial openings contain both bristle and strip wash elements.

37. (Previously presented) The washing device of claim 35 wherein the radial openings are on the shaft.

38. (Previously presented) The washing device of claim 17 wherein each bristle wash element comprises a row of bristle tufts.

39. (New) A washing device for a car wash unit, the washing device mounted on a shaft and comprising:

a plurality of bristle element areas and a plurality of strip wash element areas independently positioned along the shaft of the washing device, each of the bristle element areas and the strip wash element areas being transversely spaced apart and arranged in an alternating manner such that at least one of the bristle element areas is positioned adjacent to at least one of the strip wash element areas,

wherein each of the plurality of bristle element areas includes a plurality of bristle elements and each of the plurality of strip wash element areas includes a strip wash element;

wherein the bristle elements have a greater length than the strip wash elements and the bristle elements are coarser than the strip wash elements; and

wherein at least one end region of the washing device includes a first and second strip wash element spaced from the opposite end of the shaft.